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## OUR PUBLICATIONS AND THE SEVEN SEAS

Report on the international exchange of agricultural publications by RALPH R. SHAW,  
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Many people abroad are starving, literally, and for our publications which may help them produce more food. But how can a person abroad find out where to get the federal or state publication which would meet his needs? How do you know that the publication you send abroad is not wasted? This article tells you what is being done to meet this problem.

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The Experiment Station Section and the Extension Section of the Association of Land Grant Colleges has established a Joint Committee on Publications, under the chairmanship of Noble Clark, University of Wisconsin.

This committee has received a grant from the Foreign Operations Administration to complete a survey of Latin American institutions to determine where our publications will do the most good. The first such survey was conducted by Dean Harold Macy of the University of Minnesota (see ACE, Dec. 1953, p. 7). Dean Macy visited nine South American countries and compiled a list of "primary depositories"--institutions which have the facilities to make publications available to surrounding communities or whole areas.

As a result of Dean Macy's survey, it was possible to select a limited number of depositories in each country for publications from state agricultural experiment stations and the USDA. These institutions are separated into four categories.

The first category is listed under the designation "R," signifying that they are the primary depositories to which it is hoped practically all of the agricultural publications from the State agricultural experiment stations and the USDA may be sent.

Institutions listed under the designation "X" represent additional institutions to which such publications might be sent if the foreign mailing lists could be expanded by the stations or the USDA.

The third category is identified by the letters "A-V," and includes institutions where the primary interest would be in the broad fields of animal husbandry or veterinary medicine and lists the institutions to which it is hoped publications in those fields may be sent from the United States.

The last category, identified by the letter "P" includes those institutions where the major interest is in the field of plant science.

The grant received from the FOA enabled the Joint Committee on Publications to send Director I. B. Johnson, South Dakota, to Central America, the Caribbean countries, and those countries in South America not covered by Dean Macy. Director Johnson left on his trip March 15.

Simultaneously, an exchange center was established in the USDA Library. Through the courtesy of the University of Nebraska, we have been able to obtain the services of its Senior Librarian, Sherwood Kirk, for three months. The



exchange center will serve to inform the Experiment Station and Extension Directors of requests for exchange, changes in the status of depositories, and new exchanges offered by foreign institutions. It will also receive requests from foreign institutions and transmit them to the experiment station and extension agencies concerned.

We are in process of preparing master lists of exchanges for consideration by the State Experiment Station and Extension Directors. The first lists are almost ready for transmission to the State agencies. The first lists will be exchanges in the countries surveyed by Dean Macy, indicating the institutions which he recommended as exchange centers. This will be followed by master lists for the countries surveyed by Director Johnson, and the mailing lists maintained for all of the other countries by the USDA Library. We hope that the experiment stations and extension agencies will be able to check these lists, indicating the institutions that are already on their lists and adding any exchanges, country by country, which are not now on the list. This will provide a master mailing list for State Experiment Station and Extension publications which will then be kept current by the USDA Library exchange unit by adding information obtained from surveys of other areas as this information becomes available.

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